

# JAPAN

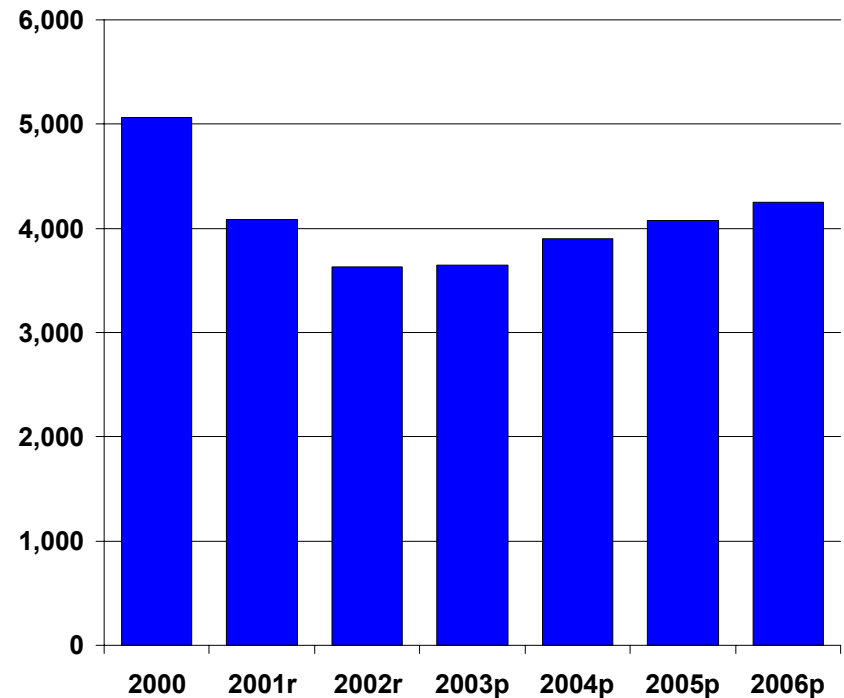
## ECONOMIC NEWS

The economy offered signs of hope in early 2002 only to fall again, with domestic demand constrained by flat incomes and employment concerns. Export demand has tapered off, leaving little hope of improvement in 2003.

## TOURISM NEWS

Heavily influenced by safety concerns, U.S. arrivals have declined precipitously. The Iraq war, SARS, and little hope of an economic recovery means demand growth will be slow for the immediate future.

**Japan Travelers to the US**



**SOURCE: US Dept of Commerce, ITA, Office of Travel & Tourism Industries**